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<http://news.in.msn.com/international/article.aspx?cp-documentid=4817810>

Washington, Jan 19 (PTI) Accusing China of repressing dissent, the **US Commission on global religious freedom** has appealed to President Barack Obama to take up the issues of human rights and religious freedom during his meeting with his visiting Chinese counterpart Hu Jintao at the White House.

"As you prepare to meet with President Hu Jintao (later today) ..., we respectfully urge you to speak publicly about why religious freedom is in China's interest, rooted in international human rights treaties and standards which China has affirmed," said Leonard Leo, the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) Chair, in a letter to Obama.